

April 4, 2013

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

Associated Press: Michigan Supreme Court names 18 business judges

"The Michigan Supreme Court has named 18 circuit judges to serve in special business courts in counties around the state. The high court announced the appointments Wednesday. It says they follow a 2012 Michigan law to create courts to handle cases between businesses in which at least \$25,000 is at stake."

[Full story](#)

Note: The article also ran in the Crain's Detroit Business, WLNS-TV(6)/Lansing and WILX-TV(10)/Lansing.

Also see:

The MiLW Blog: Judges named for business courts

[Full story](#)

Muskegon Chronicle: Muskegon County's new 'business court' officially in business, high court says

[Full story](#)

SBM Blog: Michigan's Business Court Judges Named

[Full story](#)

"Business Court" judge assignments announced by Michigan Supreme Court

[Press release](#)

The Detroit News: Michigan Supreme Court to weigh city's medical marijuana ban

"The Michigan Supreme Court said Wednesday it will consider the legality of city ordinances prohibiting the cultivation of medical marijuana based on federal prohibitions against manufacturing and distributing cannabis."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Detroit Free Press: Michigan Supreme Court to consider city marijuana ban

[Full story](#)

Associated Press: Mich. Supreme Court to consider city marijuana ban

[Full story](#)

Note: The article also ran in the Battle Creek Enquirer, the Lansing State Journal, the Midland Daily News, WKAR News/East Lansing and WILX-TV(10)/Lansing.

Grand Rapids Press: Wyoming's attempt to ban medical marijuana not done yet - state Supreme Court takes case

[Full story](#)

Detroit Free Press: Michigan court: Suit over criminal defense system proceeds

"The Michigan Court of Appeals has ruled that a long-running lawsuit can continue that challenges the system of appointing lawyers for criminal defendants who can't afford them."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Associated Press: Court: Suit over criminal defense system proceeds

[Full story](#)

Note: The article also ran in the Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor, the Midland Daily News and WLNS-TV(6)/Lansing.

Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor: Plan to overhaul public defense gets boost from state Court of Appeals

[Full story](#)

The MiLW Blog: Challenge to indigent defense system moves forward

[Full story](#)

Muskegon Chronicle: Michigan public defender lawsuit with Muskegon roots is back on after appeals court ruling

[Full story](#)

SBM Blog: Court of Appeals Says Lawsuit On Michigan Indigent Criminal Defense Can Proceed

[Full story](#)

Detroit Free Press: Judge won't toss right-to-work challenge but warns of tough road ahead

"Now that [Ingham County Circuit Judge William Collette] has denied the state's request to toss out a lawsuit challenging Michigan's new right-to-work laws, the coalition of labor unions behind the suit has more work ahead."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Detroit Free Press: Judge chides Republican legislators for right-to-work laws

[Full story](#)

The Detroit News: Groups suing over state's right-to-work law given go-ahead

[Full story](#)

Crain's Detroit Business: Circuit Court judge refuses to dismiss lawsuit against right-to-work

[Full story](#)

Lansing State Journal: Ingham judge: Provision in right-to-work laws created to 'avoid me'

[Full story](#)

Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor: Judge says anti-right-to-work lawsuit can proceed

[Full story](#)

Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor: Jack Lessenberry Commentary: The courts and right to work

[Full story](#)

WKAR News/East Lansing: Judge Says Anti-Right-To-Work Lawsuit Can Proceed

[Full story](#)

Note: Versions of yesterday's Associated Press article also ran in the Detroit Legal News, the Midland Daily News, the Morning Sun and the Oakland Press.

MLive.com: Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette seeks dismissal of federal right-to-work lawsuit

[Full story](#)

The Detroit News: October murder retrial for brothers held 25 years

"Two brothers who were freed after spending 25 years in prison on an overturned Detroit murder conviction face a retrial this fall.... On Aug. 13, Wayne County Circuit Judge Lawrence Talon ordered them retried and freed on \$10,000 bonds after new witness testimony suggested the brothers may have been misidentified."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Detroit Free Press: Retrial set for Highers brothers (second article)

[Full story](#)

Associated Press: October murder retrial for brothers held 25 years

[Full story](#)

Note: The article also ran in the Daily Tribune, the Macomb Daily and the Morning Sun.

The Detroit News: Ex-Meijer attorney disputes he lied under oath

"Grand Rapids [attorney Timothy Stoecker] is disputing allegations made by a legal watchdog agency that he lied under oath about Meijer's role in a 2007 recall election of township officials in Grand Traverse County."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Traverse City Record-Eagle: Ex-Meijer attorney contests complaint

[Full story](#)

Detroit Free Press: E-filing project to expand

"All civil division cases, except for asbestos and appeals, will be able to be filed electronically starting May 20 in Wayne County."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The MiLW Blog: Wayne's e-filing system to include med-mal, business, employment discrimination claims

[Full story](#)

The Detroit News: Editorial: Court should uphold will of Michigan voters

"Michigan voters may not have made a smart choice when they adopted a ban on the use of affirmative action in college admissions, but it was their choice to make. The Supreme Court should honor that ballot decision when it hears a challenge to Michigan's 2006 ban on race and gender preferences."

[Full story](#)

Daily Press & Argus: Appeal filed in 2008 Livingston County double murder

"An attorney for [Jerome Kowalski] convicted of a double murder in Livingston County has filed an appeal [with the Michigan Court of Appeals]."

[Full story](#)

Ingham County Legal News: Michigan Appellate Bench Bar Conference set for April 24-26

"Every three years appellate justices, judges, practitioners and court staff come together at the Michigan Appellate Bench Bar Conference to share information on appellate advocacy.... The session will open on Thursday, April 25th with a welcome from Chief Justice Robert P. Young, Chief Judge William B. Murphy and Foundation Co-Chair Mary Massaron Ross followed by a discussion by a panel of appellate justices, judges and practitioners sharing their likes and dislikes."

[Full story](#)

Ingham County Legal News: Michigan Judges need a salary boost

David Fink writes "The last time judges in the state of Michigan were given a pay increase was 2002. Since then, the consumer price index has increased nearly 30 percent."

[Full story](#)

Macomb County Legal News: Paperless courts: Bill will establish SCAO policies, practices statewide

"A measure to remove one of the last roadblocks to true paperless court records and filing, House Bill 4064, has passed the House and should be through the Senate and signed by Gov. Rick Snyder by summer."

[Full story](#)

The Macomb Daily: Prisoner who attacked Lenox prison secretary loses appeal

"A state prisoner convicted of attacking a secretary at the Macomb Correctional Facility in Lenox Township has lost an appeal after the Michigan Court of Appeals ruled it would not reward his "gamesmanship" in the legal system."

[Full story](#)

The MiLW Blog: Comments sought for proposed MCR amendments

"The Michigan Supreme Court is seeking comments on proposed amendments to two Michigan Court Rules (MCR 2.302 and MCR 3.218)."

[Full story](#)

The MiLW Blog: MSC announces chief judge, court reporter board appointments

"In orders issued April 3, the Michigan Supreme Court [appointed chief judges for Macomb County circuit and probate courts, 22nd District Court (Inkster), and 45A District Court (Berkley)]. The MSC also named three individuals to the Court Reporting and Recording Board of Review. They are Judge Pamela Lightvoet, Denise Kizy and Bonnie Rozema."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Judge Pamela L. Lightvoet of Kalamazoo Circuit Court named to Court Reporting and Recording Board of Review by Michigan Supreme Court Reappointed: Denise M. Kizy of Beverly Hills, Bonnie L. Rozema of Byron Center

[Press release](#)

Oakland County Legal News: Area students slated to meet officials at Youth in Government Day

"... Oakland County officials, who have committed to participate [in the April 22 Youth in Government Day] include Circuit Court Chief Judge Nanci J. Grant, Sheriff Michael J. Bouchard, and Clerk/Register of Deeds Lisa Brown.... Students will visit the courtrooms of Circuit Court Judges Nanci J. Grant and Leo Bowman and view the sheriff's mobile and technological equipment."

[Full story](#)

Oakland County Legal News: Friend of the Court panel to meet April 8

"The Oakland County Friend of the Court (FOC) Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC), established by Friend of the Court Act 294, 1982, Section 552.594, will meet Monday, April 8, at 10 a.m. at the Oakland County Board of Commissioners' Auditorium, Pernick Conference Room at 1200 North Telegraph in Pontiac."

[Full story](#)

Washtenaw County Legal News: Child Welfare Appellate Clinic to open in fall

"... [C]linic students will improve their writing, research, and oral advocacy skills by representing parents who are involved in direct appeals to the Michigan Court of Appeals.... Officials in Wayne County, where the majority of Michigan's parental rights terminations take place, received the prospect of working with Michigan Law students warmly. The Michigan Court of Appeals and the Michigan Court Administrator's Office also were supportive of the idea."

[Full story](#)